

[Jesse Hollingsworth to Council.]

C. S. C.

Sirs.

Baltimore February 14th 1777.

I should now be glad to now what I am to doe with the Ship Liddia. The Brig wants no more flour, tobaco nor bread. I have sum of all those things on hand. I likewise have 10 or 12 tuns of bar Iron which you may have at £50 pounds per ton, which is the price I can get from other people, it will bee wanted for the Ship Liddia. I think I could soon have one third of the Ship's Cargo in Tobacco redy for her at 30 shillings inspected. I have a good deal ingaged at that, and sum at 25 and sum at 27/6. But 30^s is the prise given now by others, and I think it wont rise. I wait your further orders but am sadly of for want of Clerks. I have no person to make out an acount, for George Dafney that wrote for mee at times is gone in the independant company over the Bay, and David Ricketts soon as hee understood that the were ordered to stay from the Eastern Shore thought the Jarseys would be next and set of to Secill County. I beleve from there hee never will return without he can bee clear of any miletery duty, he is a sickly man subject to Rumatism, Payns that for days together hee is not able to doe business, and he is shore it would be deth to him to march, and is determined to keep out of the way for there is no regard payd to your letter as to him, I showd it to the officers all in a Body and I never was told till yesterday morning that I must not march myself. Then Major Nicoldson told mee that I must have all things redy, and go on bord the vesell, and hee should order me on shore. 3 days of this week I have been under arms, not a creature to look after the delivery of flour, tobaco or bread, but a Duch Servant and a littell son of my own, about 13 year old. Now all the Invoices and a counts lies unsetled and a thousand other things and not a clerk to help me. I once more request if you Pleas to get a totall exemption from Capt. Smith for mee and David Ricketts and a discharge from every miletery duty while I am your Agent or I cannot doe your busines nor the publics, for there is nothing done here for this State, but I must doe it, and all preperations for the present movement such as I have in my hands but I must have redy, and must at the same time to pleas a few hot men, bee under arms, which cannot bee done with any care. I sold 80 bbls. of your bread to Cummins at 15/. Pleas settell this matter and I will indeavour to do your business. David Ricketts was ordered over the Bay at all events if there had been regard paid to your letter hee would not left here.

from your humbl^e Servt.

Jesse Hollingsworth

To the honorable Counsel
of Saftey